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GROUP 330



PATENTS/F.6083

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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Applicant: FRANCIS A. L'ESPERANCE, JR.  
Serial No.: 916,646  
Filed: October 8, 1986  
Group: 335  
Examiner: David Shay  
For: APPARATUS FOR OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SURGERY

New York, New York 10165  
April 22, 1987

A M E N D M E N T

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated February 20, 1987,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 12 to 17.

1 | Claim 7. (Amended) [Astigmatism-correcting apparatus  
for operation upon a limited central area of the external  
surface of the cornea of an eye,] Apparatus for performing  
ophthalmological surgery to reduce an ascertained astigmatic  
5 condition by selective ablation of the anterior surface of  
the cornea with penetration into the stroma to achieve a  
volumetric removal of corneal tissue, said apparatus comprising  
laser means having a chassis and producing an output beam in  
the ultraviolet portion of the electromagnetic spectrum and  
10 characterized by a spot which at eye impingement is small  
[relative to said central area] in relation to the cornea to  
be operated upon, said laser means including means for adjusting  
beam-exposure flux to a level at which corneal-tissue ablation  
per unit time is to an ascertained elemental depth which is but  
15 a fraction of desired maximum depth into the stroma region,  
scan-deflection means positioned for deflection of said beam  
in a limited field about a central axis, [body-engageable]  
means for steadying [one eye of the patient] the cornea with  
respect to said chassis and with the central area of the cornea  
20 centered on the central axis of scan deflection of said beam,

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